

Backyard Beehives

Motion: Residents who meet specifications will be permitted to keep a beehive colony in their backyards.

Advantages of Backyard Beehives	Disadvantages of Backyard Beehives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers use synthetic pesticides that have endangered bees. • Honey is a very nutritious food. It contains vitamins B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, and C. It also contains antioxidants that build healthy enzymes aiding in digestion and staving off allergies. • Honey is expensive. Urban beekeeping could stimulate local markets to make supply more abundant and cheaper. • Urban bees are stronger, healthier and more resilient because of the diversity of pollen in city gardens. • Bee colony interactions are interesting to watch, encouraging people to be outdoors. • Honey bees and bumblebees have evolved to be reluctant to sting because a bee that stings will die. • Beeswax can be used to make candles, lip balm, and cosmetics. • Feed security and biodiversity are supported when urban dwellers have a hand in food production. • Bees are needed for the pollination of apples, cherries, berries, peaches, cucumber, melons, sunflowers, peas, beans, squash and corn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many bees could lead to swarms competing for pollen and space. At risk could be butterflies and other pollinating insects. • Many urban dwellers might not be interested in having more bees around because they don't have flower gardens or gardens. • A generous and reliable water source needs to be nearby the hive or people might have bees annoying and stinging them around their pools. • Hives need to be located properly or neighbours might be bothered and stung. • The cost of supplies includes purchasing a hive (\$110); clothing, smoker, extracting equipment and other supplies (\$160); and new bees (\$100). • Little honey will be produced during the first year and people may abandon their bees. • Beehives will require at least a half hour of maintenance each week. • Honey can be collected twice a year, but if too much is removed, bees will swarm and migrate somewhere else. Will die over winter if too much honey has been removed. • A neighbor might have a serious and medically certified allergy to bee stings.